REMARKS

Claims 1-15 are pending in the present application. Claims 1 and 15 have been amended. Claims 1 and 15 are independent.

Claim Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 1-10 and 13-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Moberg et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,578,084. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

With regard to claim 1, Applicants assert that Moberg et al. fail to disclose linking a plurality of layer contexts based on addresses and encoding each layer context of the plurality of layer contexts after the step of linking is complete as recited in claim 1. Instead, Moberg et al. disclose an encapsulation process including compression, encryption and other functions. The functions are broken into individual elements. The elements are dynamically chained together at runtime, as needed, using a linked chain structure as disclosed at Col. 5, lines 34-42. Applicants assert that the chaining of functions of Moberg et al. is not the same as linking a plurality of layer contexts based on addresses. Further, the chaining of functions is not the same as encoding each layer context of the plurality of layer contexts after the step of linking is complete. Therefore, Moberg et al. can not disclose or suggest linking a plurality of layer contexts based on addresses and encoding each layer context of the plurality of layer contexts after the step of linking is complete as in claim 1. Moberg et al. fail to disclose each and every element of independent claim 1.

With regard to independent claim 15, Applicants assert that Moberg et al. fail to disclose combining unformatted elements to link a plurality of layer contexts based on addresses and

using a method based on the combining step on the unformatted elements to form a formatted layered message as recited in claim 15. Instead, Moberg et al. disclose an encapsulation process including compression, encryption and other functions. The functions are broken into individual elements. The elements are dynamically chained together at runtime, as needed, using a linked chain structure. The functions are broken into individual elements as disclosed at Col. 5, lines 34-42. Applicants assert that the chaining of functions of Moberg et al. is not the same as combining unformatted elements at least because the functions themselves have at least some format. Furthermore, the chaining of functions is not the same as combining unformatted elements to form a formatted layered message. Therefore, Moberg et al. cannot disclose or suggest combining unformatted elements to link a plurality of layer contexts based on addresses and using a method based on the combining step on the unformatted elements to form a formatted layered message as recited in claim 15. Moberg et al. fail to disclose each and every element of independent claim 15.

Claims 2-10 and 13-14 are allowable at least because they depend from one of independent claims 1 and 15.

Applicants respectfully request that the art grounds of rejection be withdrawn

Claim Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 11 and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Moberg et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

With regard to claims 11 and 12, Applicants assert that they are allowable at least because they depend from independent claim 1.

Applicants request that the art grounds of rejection be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request entry of this Amendment in that it raises no new issues requiring further consideration and/or search.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that claims 1-15 are patentable over the relied upon references, and that the application as a whole is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.
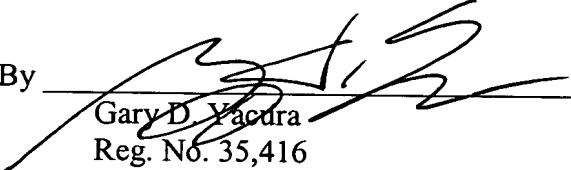
In the event that any matters remain at issue in the application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (703) 668-8000 in the Northern Virginia area, for the purpose of a telephonic interview.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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